

**CLARK COUNTY  
CLEAN WATER COMMISSION  
Meeting Notes**

Wednesday, March 3, 2004

6:30 – 8:30 PM

Clark County Operations Conference Room

4700 NE 78<sup>th</sup> Street

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Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Present

Anne Jackson, Bill Owen, Susan Rasmussen, Judy Schramm Don Steinke, Art Stubbs, and Virginia vanBreeman

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Absent

Robbie Agard

Clark County Public Works Staff

Kelli Frost, Earl Rowell and Cindy Stienbarger

**Call to Order**

*Introduction*

The members of the Clark County Clean Water Commission, and Clark County staff were introduced. The meeting was then called to order.

*Agenda and material review*

The material for the meeting includes:

1. 03/03/04 Clark County Clean Water Commission meeting agenda
2. 02/04/04 Clark County Clean Water Commission meeting notes
3. Watershed Stewards Program 2003 Annual Report
4. Small Acreage Landholder Outreach Program 2003 Annual Report
  - Clean Water Program Education update, March 3, 2004
  - Clean Water Program sample bookmark

*02/04/04 meeting notes*

The 02/04/04 Clean Water Commission meeting notes were approved as amended. Mr. Bertish's name was spelled incorrectly in the meeting notes. It will be corrected and revised meeting notes issued.

Mr. Owen: At the last meeting we had a discussion regarding dipping into the Clean Water Program "savings" fund in order to pay for all the CIP projects. I was under the impression that these would be paid for by the operating fund, which turns out not to be the case. I hope in the future that we would be informed that this would be the case so we have the option of a) kicking off a couple of the projects or b) go ahead and approve dipping into "savings".

Mr. Rowell: The monies that were identified in the seven CIP's, that were approved by the Board of County Commissioners, is part of the dollars that were approved by this group and part of the operating fund.

Mr. Owen: At the time, my understanding was that we wouldn't dip into savings at all however that is no longer the case.

Mr. Rowell: The difference is about \$185,000.

Mr. Owen: I would like this discussion added to the minutes.

### *Communications with the public*

1. Staff has been in contact with Washington Department of Ecology to try and coordinate production of a leaking oil brochure that can be handed out at emissions stations. However, the Department of Ecology contracts out the services at the emissions stations and at this time they are not interested in pursuing this brochure. We are looking into other options such as, Department of Licensing and other automobile servicing businesses.
2. Staff will begin working on clean water fee prep for 2004. We will be providing more information to the Clean Water Commissioners as it is developed.
3. Staff is working on a communications plan to help get the word out to the Community, Agencies, and other Organizations to better promote the Clean Water Program.
4. The Camas Post Record expressed an interest in County staff doing a presentation about LaCamas Lake.

Mr. Owen asked if there were any coordination with other agencies regarding Vancouver Lake.

Mr. Rowell replied staff has met with the City/County Parks Department, the Health Department, and the City of Vancouver to coordinate implementation of the Health Department's bacteria and algae monitoring work in the lake. Water Resources focus is cleaning up the headwaters that feed into Vancouver Lake which helps to improve water quality in Vancouver Lake and Lake River.

Mr. Stubbs wanted to know if there were any additional costs to the Clean Water fund from the winter ice storm in regards to street sweeping or maintenance.

Mr. Rowell informed Mr. Stubbs that he would research this information. *Post meeting information: According to Bud Cave, there is no increase cost to the Clean Water Program. Such work falls under routine or scheduled maintenance activity.*

### *Public Involvement and Education Update*

Mrs. Stienbarger provided an update on the following programs:

#### River Rangers

The River Ranger Program utilizes Volunteers and Environmental Information Cooperative staff to coordinate and educate fourth graders. In February 2004 they reached 460 students and there are over 30 bookings scheduled for the River Ranger program in area schools.

Mr Stubbs inquired whether the River Ranger program was only given to fourth graders.

Mrs. Stienbarger stated that the program was designed for fourth grade students; however it is given to third and fourth graders in some schools.

Mrs. Stienbarger informed the Clean Water Commissioners that the new County web site was up and running. The web page address was still the same [www.clark.wa.gov](http://www.clark.wa.gov).

#### Watershed Stewards

In 2003 twenty-eight Watershed Stewards were trained. This brings the active roster up to 87; this is up from last year. The number of volunteer hours has increased from 1495 hours to almost 2500 hours, a value of \$41,000 compared to \$22,000 in 2002.

Mrs. Rasmussen asked where the majority of the volunteer hours were spent.

Mrs. Stienbarger replied that the majority of the volunteer hours are for community and monitoring events.

The Spring Watershed Stewards training began with sixteen students.

Mr. Owen: Have you made announcements in other newsletters regarding Watershed Stewards Trainings?

Mrs. Stienbarger: We have explored other newsletters; I will follow up with Gary on this issue.

Mrs. Rasmussen asked if Mr. Bock had a marketing plan.

Mrs. Stienbarger has been meeting with Mr. Strick who is working with the Water Resource Section on a communications plan.

Mr. Stubbs recommended putting Public Involvement and Education Update on the agenda for next month so the Commissioners can have time to review the material handed out at tonight's meeting.

#### Small Acreage Program

This is the first year of the program that is designed to target rural landowners who may or may not have animals. Their biggest event was the living on the land series which is 10 – 12 weeks long.

Mr. Owen complimented Mrs. Stienbarger on the annual reports as they were easy to follow, however he did recommend adding a table of contents to make it easier to find specific topics of interest.

Mr. Owen requested a calendar of events funded by the Clean Water Program to be available for the Clean Water Commissioners at each meeting.

Mr. Owen asked Mrs. Stienbarger if she thought Mr. Bock had enough assistance.

Mrs. Stienbarger replied that it is in the scope of work to hire a half time assistant for Mr. Bock and they are working on developing the criteria for that position.

Vehicle Decals that promote the Clean Water Program are on County Street Sweepers.

Cindy handed out some of the clean water program magnets that will be used as a promotional item.

#### Poster contest

There were 652 entries for the poster contest. The entries will be judged by a panel, and four posters will be placed on area billboards.

#### *Other Items*

Mr. Rowell informed the CWC that he was working on the 2003 CWC Annual Report. He will present a draft of the report at the April CWC meeting for review and discussion.

#### *Next Meeting*

The next Clean Water Commission Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 7, 2004 at the LaCenter Community Center, 1004 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, LaCenter 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

#### Adjourn

***The Clean Water Commission meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.***

*Respectively Submitted,*

*Kelli Frost*

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